



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

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GILBERT MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR MAIL FRAUD

PHOENIX – Ingo Melvin Rewald, 51, of Gilbert, Ariz., was sentenced here to 100 months in prison by U.S. District Court Judge Frederick J. Martone. Rewald pleaded guilty in federal district court on April 14, 2005 to Mail Fraud.

U.S. Attorney Paul K. Charlton stated "More than 2000 people trusted Rewald to do the right thing and he robbed them. This case demonstrates the fine work of the Postal Inspection Service and the prosecutor who assimilated the relatively small investments and showed them for that they were in total, a massive fraud." Shawn Tiller, Assistant Inspector in Charge, U.S. Postal Inspection Service in Arizona, stated that "On the surface, the scheme used in this case appeared to provide a legitimate service. In reality, Mr. Rewald failed to deliver, and in many cases, did not refund the 'fee' he charged the would-be victims for his services."

Rewald admitted to the court that from 1998 until 2003 he ran three companies, Adventure-Time-Marketing, TimeShares-R-US and Condos-R-US, as part of a scheme to defraud owners of timeshare properties. Rewald said he contacted owners of time share properties and, using an assumed name, falsely advised them that he had a ready, willing and able buyer for their time shares. Rewald charged the owners \$395 for his services and received the potential sellers' money via wire transfer or mail. He acknowledged that he used post office box addresses to thwart the sellers' attempt to locate him.

A U.S. Postal Inspection Service investigation revealed that Rewald had a client list of 2,550 people. Questionnaires sent to his former clients indicated that 85 percent felt they were defrauded as a result of the scheme. Judge Martone noted that Rewald had an extensive criminal theft record. The judge concluded that for sentencing purposes under the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, Rewald obtained up to one million dollars by misrepresentation during the five years of his criminal activity. Restitution of \$264,412 was ordered to be paid to the identified victims. Rewald will be placed on three years of supervised release upon the conclusion of his prison sentence.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. The prosecution was handled by Richard I. Mesh, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona.

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